

UNITED STATES INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SECURITY COMMITTEE

SECOM-D-42
25 February 1975

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, Technical Surveillance
Countermeasures Subcommittee

SUBJECT : Tasking of R&D Group, Study of Security
Alarm Systems

1. This memorandum requests tasking the R&D Group of the TSCS to study currently available security alarm systems and drafting a revision and update of the Interim Federal Specifications of Alarm Systems for adoption in the USIB Physical Security Standards for Sensitive Compartmented Information Facilities (USIB-D-9.1/20, 30 April 1973). This request was originally presented to the Security Committee by memorandum of 25 November 1974 from the DIA member. A copy of that memorandum is attached.

2. In keeping with the agreement of the Security Committee to expand the charter of the R&D Group to consider a wider range of security-related issues, it seems appropriate to ask the R&D Group to chair a small working panel of representatives from CIA, DIA, NSA and any other member department and agency as desired by the R&D Group. In view of ERDA's role as the alarm testing facility for the General Services Administration, it would be advisable to obtain ERDA representation on the panel.

3. A considerable amount of work was done in this regard by the Security Committee in preparation of the USIB physical security standards. This early work could serve to the advantage of the panel and should be considered by them. There has also been a revision of the Interim Federal Specifications on Alarms in 1973 based upon results of proposals by the AEC. The panel should review the 1973 revision as well as the August 1970 draft revision.

4. With this background already available I do not believe the panel will require an inordinate amount of time. However, I leave to you the establishment of a realistic deadline and ask that you inform me of progress.

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[Redacted]
Chairman

Attachment

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DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

CIA

U-65,640/DS-6C2

25 NOV 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, SECURITY COMMITTEE, UNITED STATES
INTELLIGENCE BOARD

SUBJECT: Implementation of USIB-D-9.1/20, 30 April 1973, Policy
Statement - USIB Physical Security Standards for Sensitive
Compartmented Information Facilities

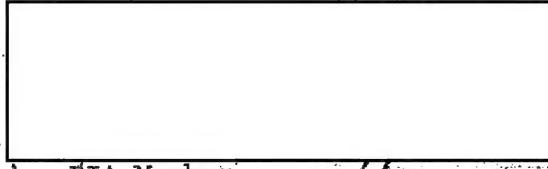
1. In a general sense, the subject policy statement has proved to be an exceptional security management tool. However, within the Department of Defense (excluding the National Security Agency) we are experiencing difficulty in carrying out the intent of Section III, which deals with security alarm systems.

2. I believe your records will show that the first draft of these physical security standards was submitted to the Security Committee on 29 November 1971. The memorandum transmitting that draft stipulated that the section on alarm systems was dependent upon acceptance by the General Services Administration (GSA) of several revisions that were proposed to be made in the Interim Federal Specification, Alarm Systems, Interior, Security, Components for, W-A-00450A (GSA-FSS), 29 December 1969, as amended 27 August 1970. A copy of the proposed revisions was enclosed with that memorandum for referral to GSA, if and when they were approved by the Security Committee. Our recollection is that it was later decided to refer these proposed revisions to the Inter-Agency Advisory Committee on Security Equipment for necessary action to have the Interim Federal Specification revised.

3. The DoD implementation of the subject USIB Policy Statement was published on 31 July 1974. To our knowledge, nothing had been accomplished as of that date to revise the Interim Federal Specification. Therefore, the DoD implementation lists those interior alarm systems and devices, which have been determined by DIA to have the degree of reliability and resistance to defeat that is required to protect sensitive compartmented information facilities. This does not conform with the USIB Policy Statement, which prescribes that any security alarm system or alarm component which is to be used to protect sensitive compartmented information must have been tested against, and passed, the Interim Federal Specification, Alarm System, Interior, Security, Components for, W-A-00450Z (GSA-FSS), dated 29 December 1969, as subsequently amended. It further states that the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) is GSA's officially designated test facility for security alarm systems.

4. Since the Interim Federal Specification has not been revised, alarm systems and components which merely meet the Specification as it now stands could be little more than "burglar" alarms. In these circumstances, Section III of the USIB Policy Statement is rendered ineffective. This situation is further complicated by the fact that, under the provisions of Section III, DIA has received requests to submit alarm systems and components to AEC for testing and ultimate approval for use in sensitive compartmented information facilities. We are reluctant to do so, realizing that it could lead to approval of alarm systems of the "burglar" protection category.

5. It is recommended that this matter be placed on the agenda for consideration at an early meeting of the Security Committee, with a view to assigning this task to the R&D Group of the Technical Surveillance Countermeasures Subcommittee.



DIA Member
Security Committee, USIB

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